

Remarks

Claims 1-4, 8-14 and 28-38 are now pending in this application. Applicant has amended claims 1, 8, 9, 13, and 14 and presented claims 28-38 to clarify the claimed invention. Applicant has cancelled claims 15-27 where were withdrawn from consideration by the Examiner as directed to non-elected inventions. Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration of this case.

Applicant has amended claim 1 along the lines discussed with the Examiner to clarify the pre-solder and solder. Applicant submits that claim 1 complies with 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph and respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection. Claim 28 includes similar language to claim 1.

The Examiner indicated that claims 7 and 8 recite patentable subject matter. Applicant has amended claim 1 to include the subject matter of claim 7 and claims 5 and 6, from which claim 7 depended. New claim 28 includes the subject matter of claims 1 and 8 and claims 5 and 6, from which claim 8 depended. All dependent claims depend directly or indirectly from claim 1 or 28. Applicant has cancelled claims 15-27, which were directed to non-elected inventions. Accordingly, Applicant submits that all pending claims are allowable.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (AAPA) discussed in the specification in view of U.S. patent 1,425,633 to Colby and U.S. patent 4,493,449 to Kleiman. The Examiner rejected claims 9-11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over AAPA, Colby and Kleiman and further in

view of U.S. patent 3,480,759 to Sachs et al. The Examiner rejected claims 12-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over AAPA, Colby and Kleiman and further in view of EP 1 112 803 to Tadauchi et al.

In view of the above-discussed amendments to the claims, these rejections are no longer relevant and Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections based upon the cited references.

In conclusion, Applicant submits that this case is now in condition for allowance and requests favorable reconsideration of this case and early issuance of the Notice of Allowance.

If an interview would advance the prosecution of this application, Applicant respectfully urges the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The undersigned authorizes the Commissioner to charge fee insufficiency and credit overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 22-0261.

Dated: March 29, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

Electronic signature: /Eric J. Franklin/
Eric J. Franklin

Registration No.: 37,134
VENABLE LLP
P.O. Box 34385
Washington, DC 20043-9998
(202) 344-4000
(202) 344-8300 (Fax)
Attorney/Agent For Applicant